

Clemson University

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Presentations

University Libraries

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3-9-2021

## **Clemson Libraries: Discover, Collaborate, Create**

Christopher Cox

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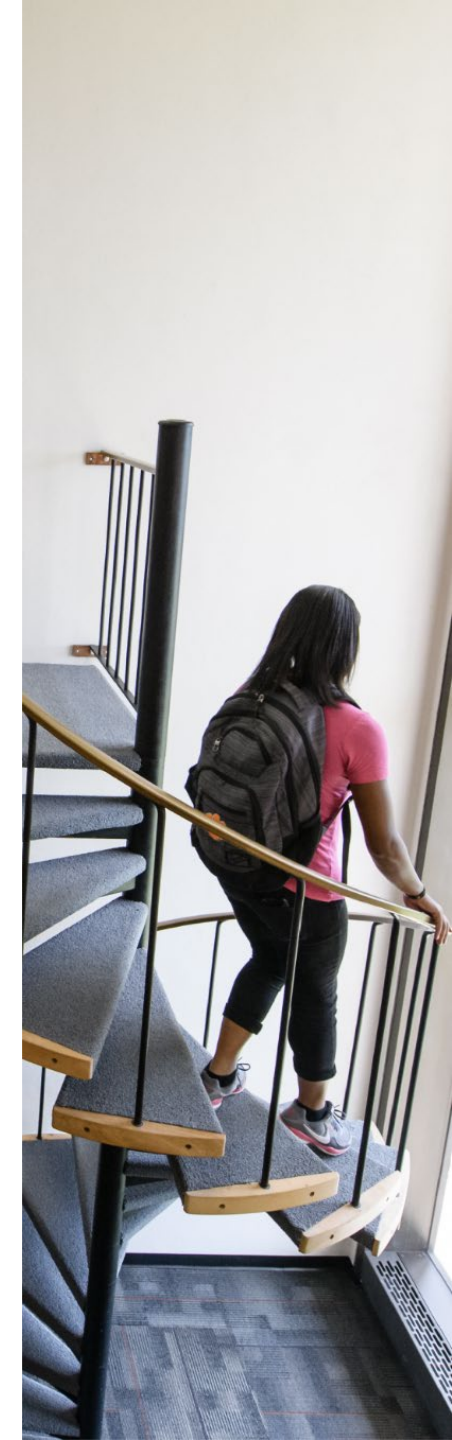
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# Clemson Libraries: Discover, Collaborate, Create

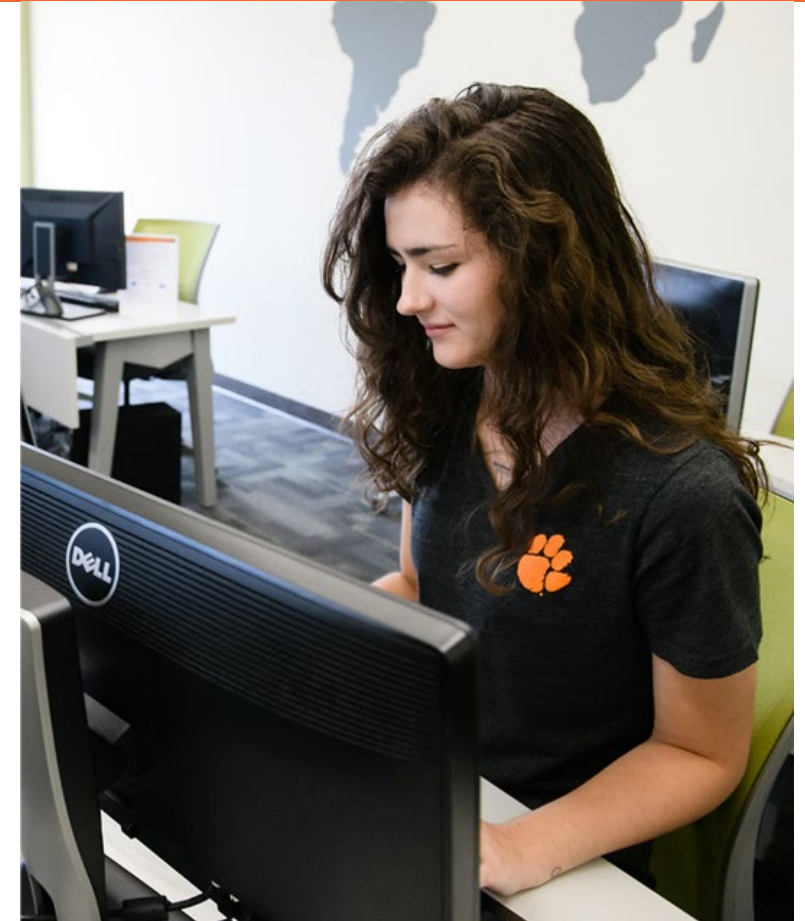
**Clemson Alumni Association  
Meal Club  
Spring Speaker Series**  
Christopher Cox, Dean of Libraries  
March 9, 2021



# Outline

- **Libraries Overview**
- **COVID-19 Challenges and Responses**
- **Becoming a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Research Library**
- **Cooper Library 2.0**

**LIBRARIES PROFILE:** Discover, Collaborate, Create



# LIBRARIES OVERVIEW



## COLLECTION

- 1.5M print volumes
- 82,000+ e-journal subscriptions
- 12,000 sq. ft of Special Collections and Archives materials



## SERVICES

- Research assistance
- Information literacy instruction
- Collaboration space
- Open education resources
- Digital media support
- Publishing



## PERSONNEL

- 28 librarians
- 55 staff
- 91 student assistants (5 FTE)
- 88 TOTAL FTE

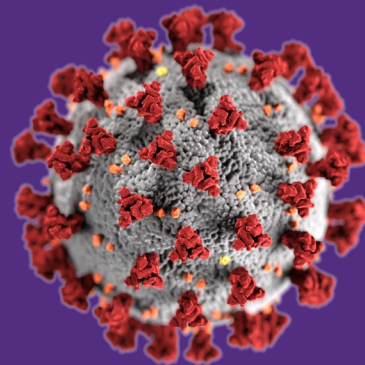


## FACILITIES

- Cooper Library (9,000 visits per day)
- Gunnin Architecture Library (Lee Hall)
- Education Media Center (Tillman Hall)
- Special Collections and Archives (STI)
- Clemson Architecture Center (Charleston)
- Library Depot (Clemson Research Park)



# COVID-19: Challenges and Opportunities





# PHASE 1: University Courses Move Online; Employees Work From Home

- Libraries facilities closed March 16, 2020 per Governor's order; all but essential employees work from home
- Book and tech checkout suspended
- Online collections remain accessible
- Majority of other services continue or move online



# PHASE 1 INNOVATIONS

- Temporary access to 2 million eBooks
- Increased purchases of eBooks and streaming media\*
- “Scan and Deliver” service provides portions of books/articles\*
- Expanded digital collections\*
- Extended online research support hours\*
- JULY 2020 – Started curbside pickup of materials

\*Anticipated to continue after pandemic



## PHASE 2: Campus Reopens for Mix of In-Person, Online and Blended Courses

- Reopened library facilities September 21, 2020
- Planning conducted with University of Rochester and NC State
- Guiding Principles:
  - Ensure health and safety of employees and patrons
  - Follow best practices across research libraries and health and safety guidelines
  - Position the Libraries for the future
  - Remain flexible





# PHASE 2 CHANGES

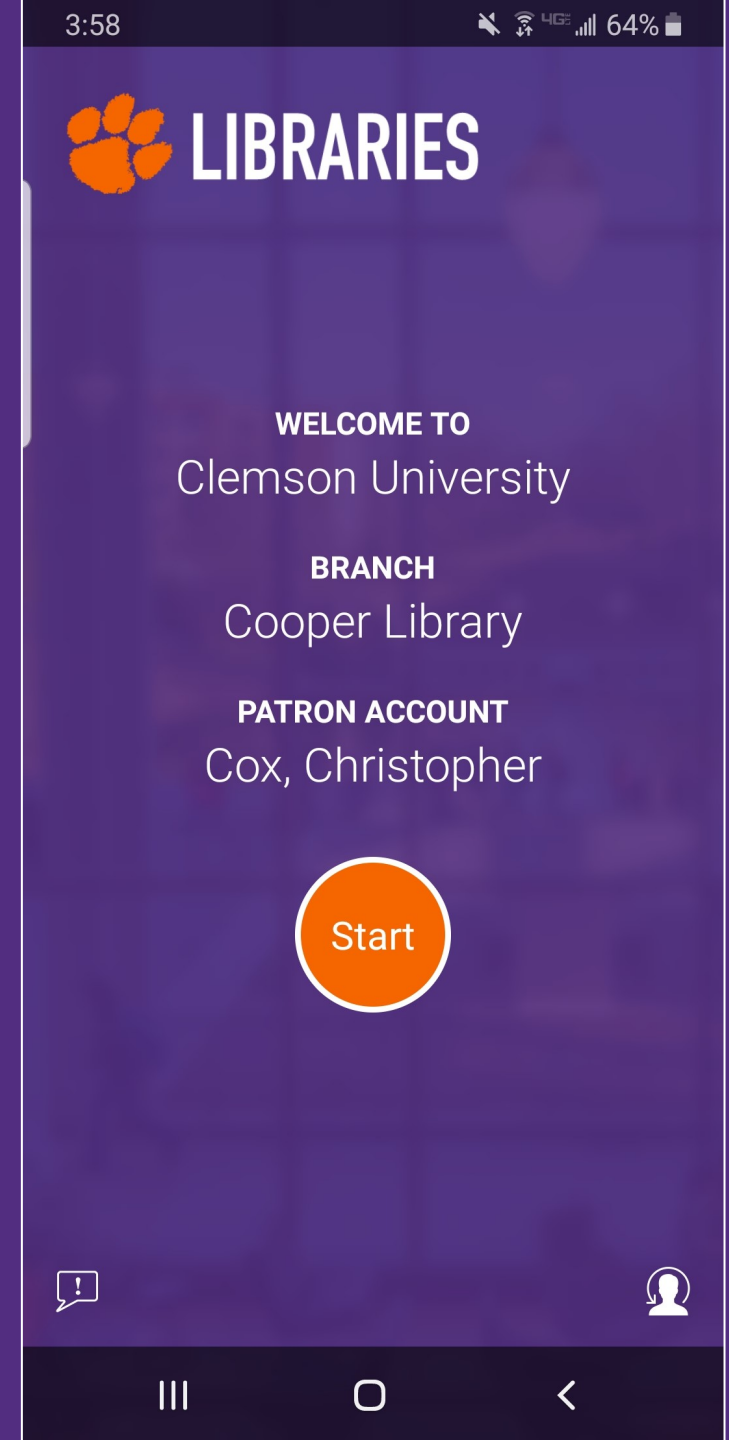
- Increased cleaning; reduced hours
- Furniture removed for social distancing
- Plexiglass barriers at service desks; touchless self-service emphasized
- Building access – Scan in. Limited to current students, faculty and staff
- Need to book a seat; masks required
- Pick-up desk at entrance
- Research and instruction by appointment/online
- Current procedures - <https://libraries.clemson.edu/coronavirus-updates/>



# PHASE 2 INNOVATIONS

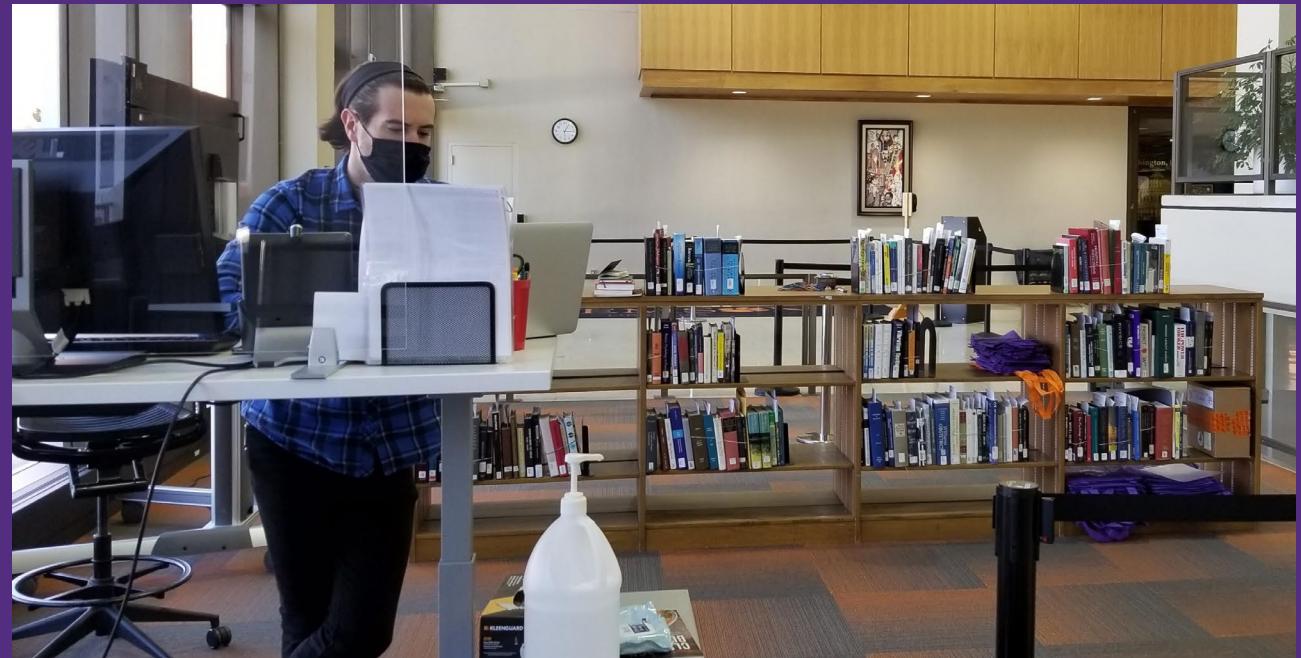
- Capacity management
- Connecting IDs to test results
- Seat booking\*
  - Increased length of seating appointments based on student input
- Separate pick-up location\*
- Self check app\*
- Managing seat/room booking for the campus\*

\*Anticipated to continue after pandemic



# PHASE 3: Back to “Normal”

- Fall 2021 – TBD. Predictions...
  - Furniture returns; some social distancing
  - Masks still required
  - In-person services resume (full? limited?)
  - Group studies reopen
  - Targeted programming resumes



# Library Trends After COVID-19

- Increased demand for eBooks, streaming media
- Increased digitization of rare, unique materials
- Self-service and online options expected
- Seat appointments remain popular
- Temporary demand for more enclosed, individual study spaces







# **Becoming a 21st Century Research Library**

Twenty-first century research libraries serve as catalysts for intellectual pursuit, supporting new ways of researching, sharing, and creating that are pivotal to the success of today's college graduates.



# Research 1 Benchmarking Report

- Compared ourselves to 12 R1 public land grant universities with no medical school
- Goals:
  - To evaluate Clemson's current operations
  - To discern the differences between operations of spaces, services, collections, and resources at Clemson Libraries and 12 specific aspirational peer R1 Libraries
  - To offer recommendations to help Clemson Libraries bridge the gap
- Copy of the report lives at [https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib\\_pubs/165](https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib_pubs/165)



## Comparison to Research 1 Peers

When considering all branches and locations, Clemson Libraries is 200,000 sq.ft. behind aspirational peer institutions.



## Comparison to Research 1 Peers

Libraries are important considerations for students when choosing a university.

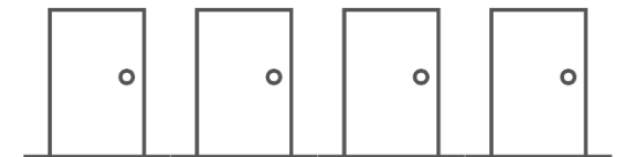
Clemson library buildings have especially high student usage but run a deficit in study rooms, seats and specialized-use areas.



Clemson: 2,394 seats  
Peer Institution (4) Average: 4,168 seats



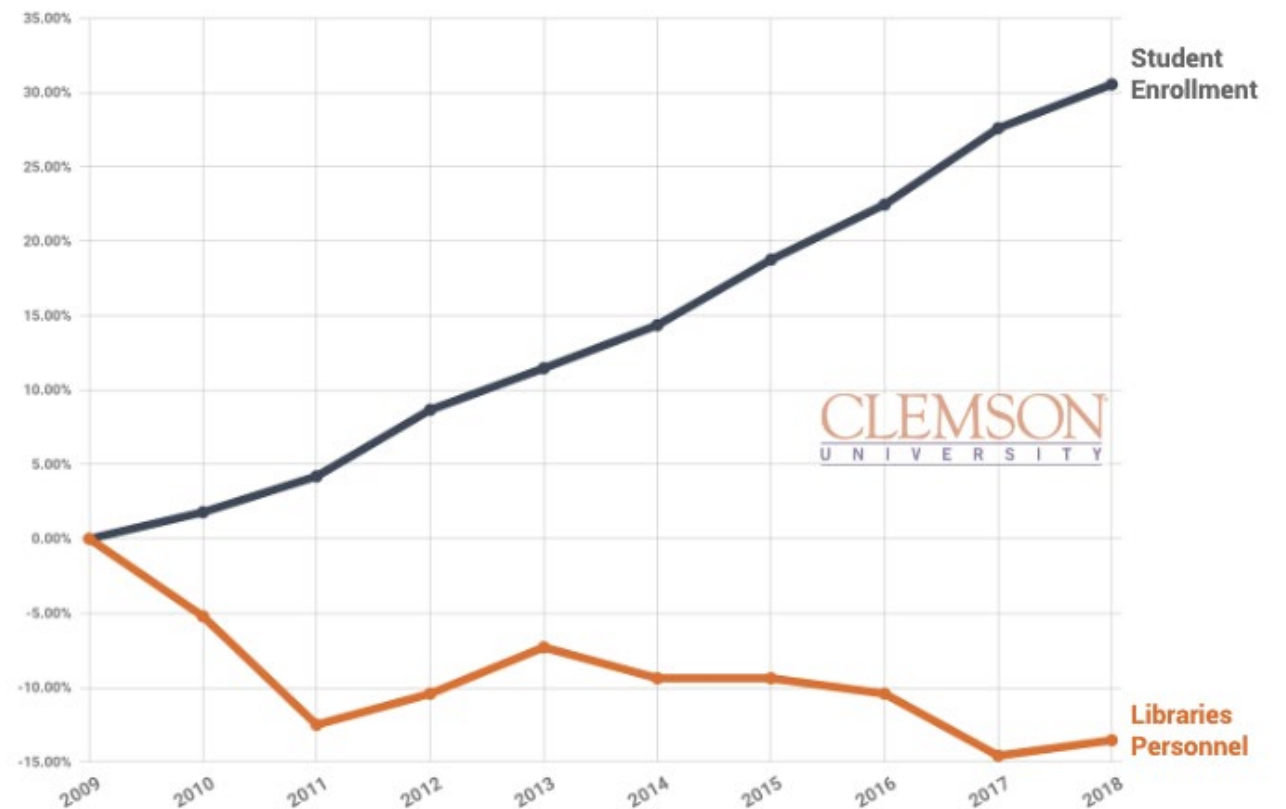
Clemson: 12 study rooms  
Peer Institution (6) Average: 50 study rooms



## Comparison to Research 1 Peers

Clemson has fewer librarians, staff, and student employees than peer institutions.

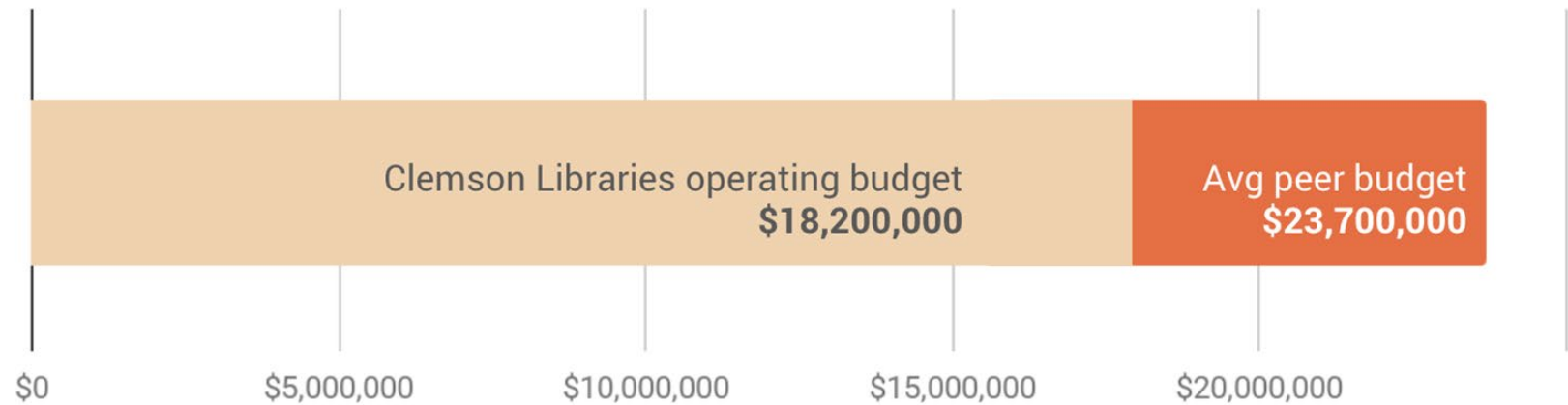
Personnel levels have not kept pace with student enrollment.



Student enrollment growth vs library personnel totals over time

## Comparison to Research 1 Peers

The Libraries' current operating budget falls short of the peer median.





# MAJOR STRATEGIES

## Enhance support for digital literacy

Increase research services for faculty and graduate students

Improve learning accessibility and affordability for undergraduate students

Collaboratively build research-level collections

Create twenty-first century learning spaces



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Increase research services for faculty and graduate students

Improve learning accessibility and affordability for undergraduate students

Collaboratively build research-level collections

**Create twenty-first century learning spaces**







# Cooper Library 2.0

"A Vision for the Future of Research"  
2020 Master Plan

# Master Plan Development

- Brightspot conducted focus groups with stakeholders
  - [https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib\\_pubs/183](https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib_pubs/183)
- Collins Cooper Carusi Architects developed a plan for Cooper renovation and expansion including floor plans and cost estimation
  - [https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib\\_pubs/182/](https://tigerprints.clemson.edu/lib_pubs/182/)



# Building Challenges

- Dedicated October 14, 1966
- Has not changed much from this time
- Unable to meet the curricular and research needs of today's students and faculty
- Has higher demand for services/seating than can be accommodated in current footprint
- Lacks space to build high quality, competitive R1 collections and services
- Has inadequate space for growing staff
- Has met end-of-building life cycle



## Galvanizing Idea

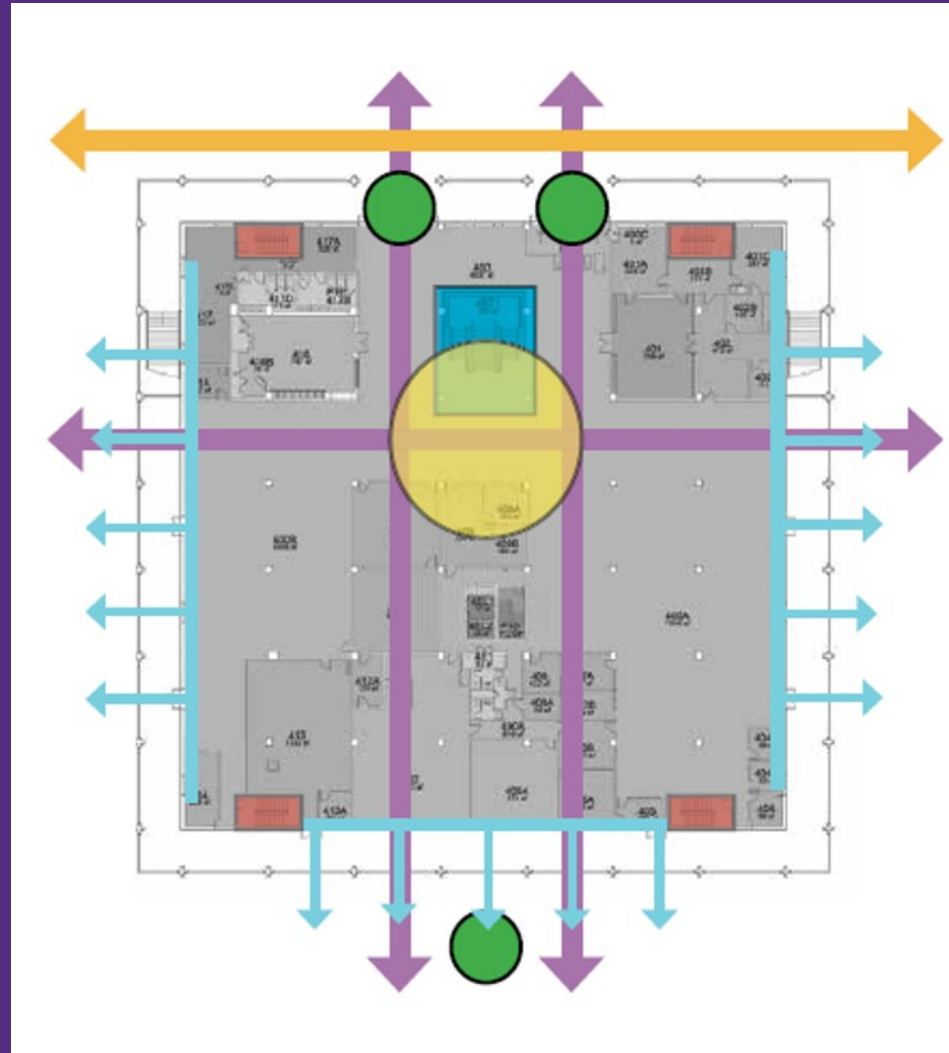
“Cooper Library will be THE gathering place on campus, where students learn to become researchers, where faculty collaborate to conduct research, and where the knowledge acquired is showcased and celebrated. It will become the gateway to a comprehensive research support network for Clemson University.”

# Renovation Goals

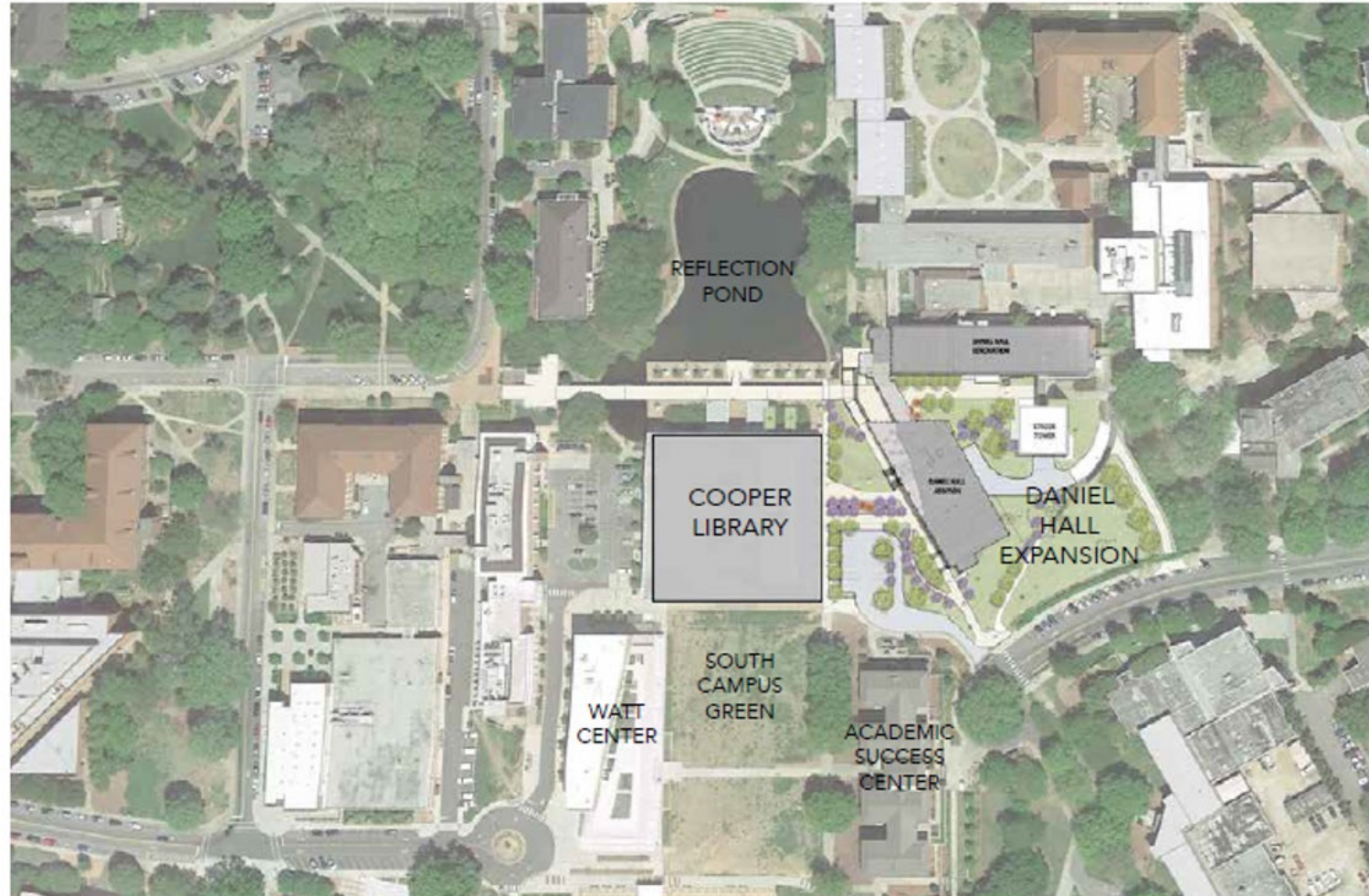
- Increase the amount and variety of student study space
- Expand and enhance the undergraduate learning commons
- Build a graduate research commons
- Provide dedicated space for faculty services and support
- Expand digital literacy services
- Add new event space and exhibit/display spaces
- Consolidate and improve employee work space
- Create new entrance on south side of building
- Improve wayfinding



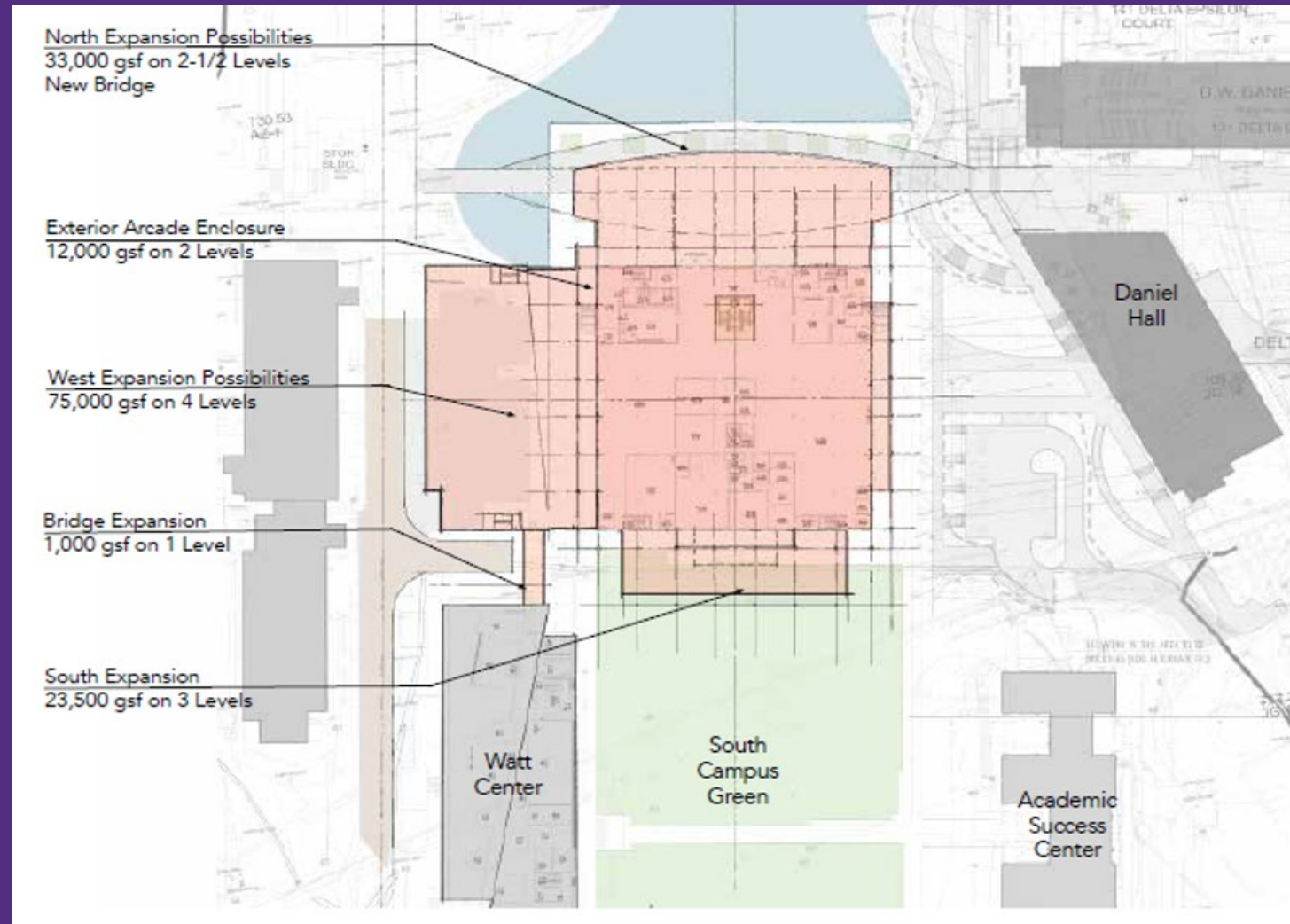
# Renovation Concept



# Existing Site

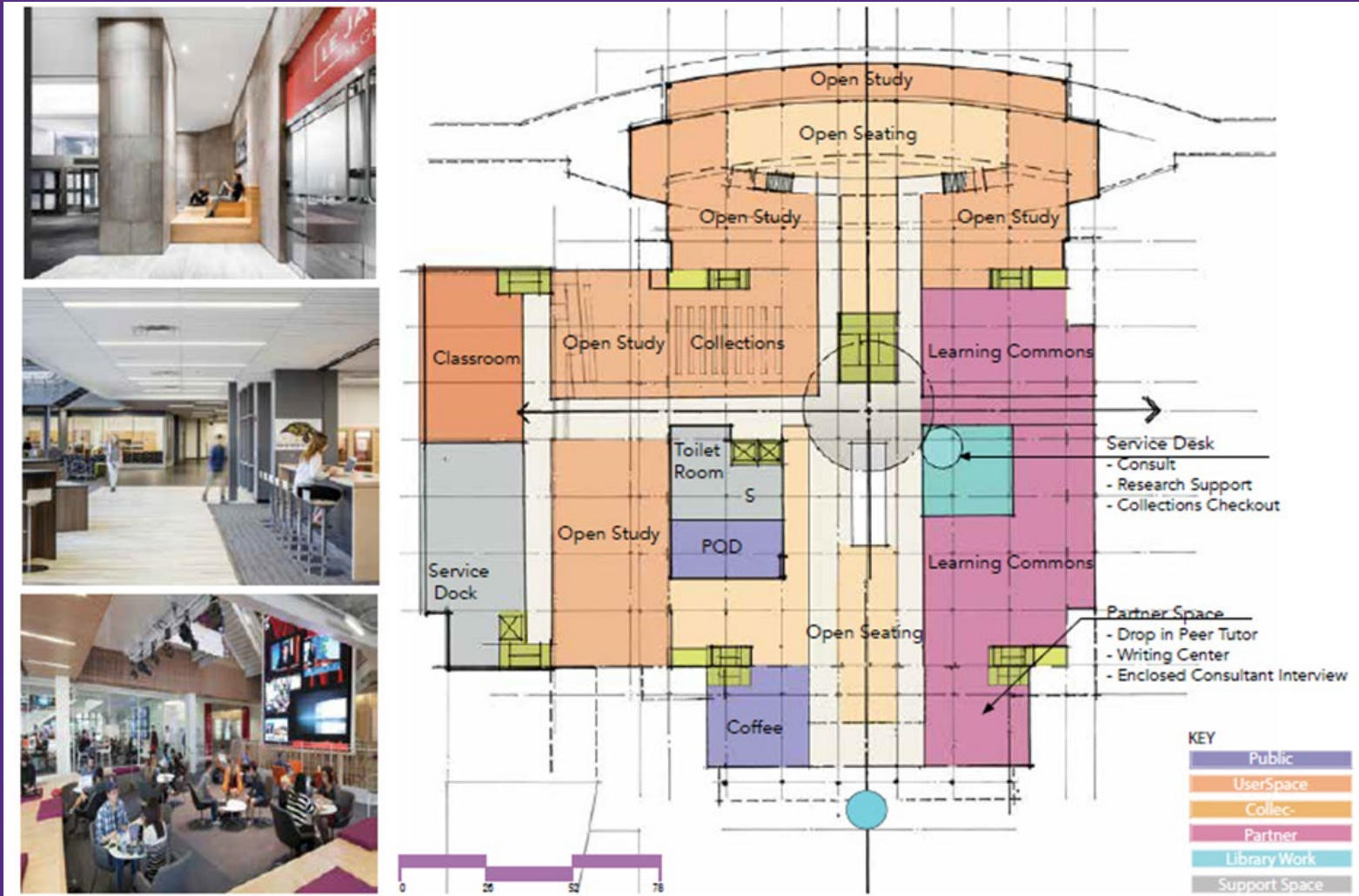


# Proposed Expansion

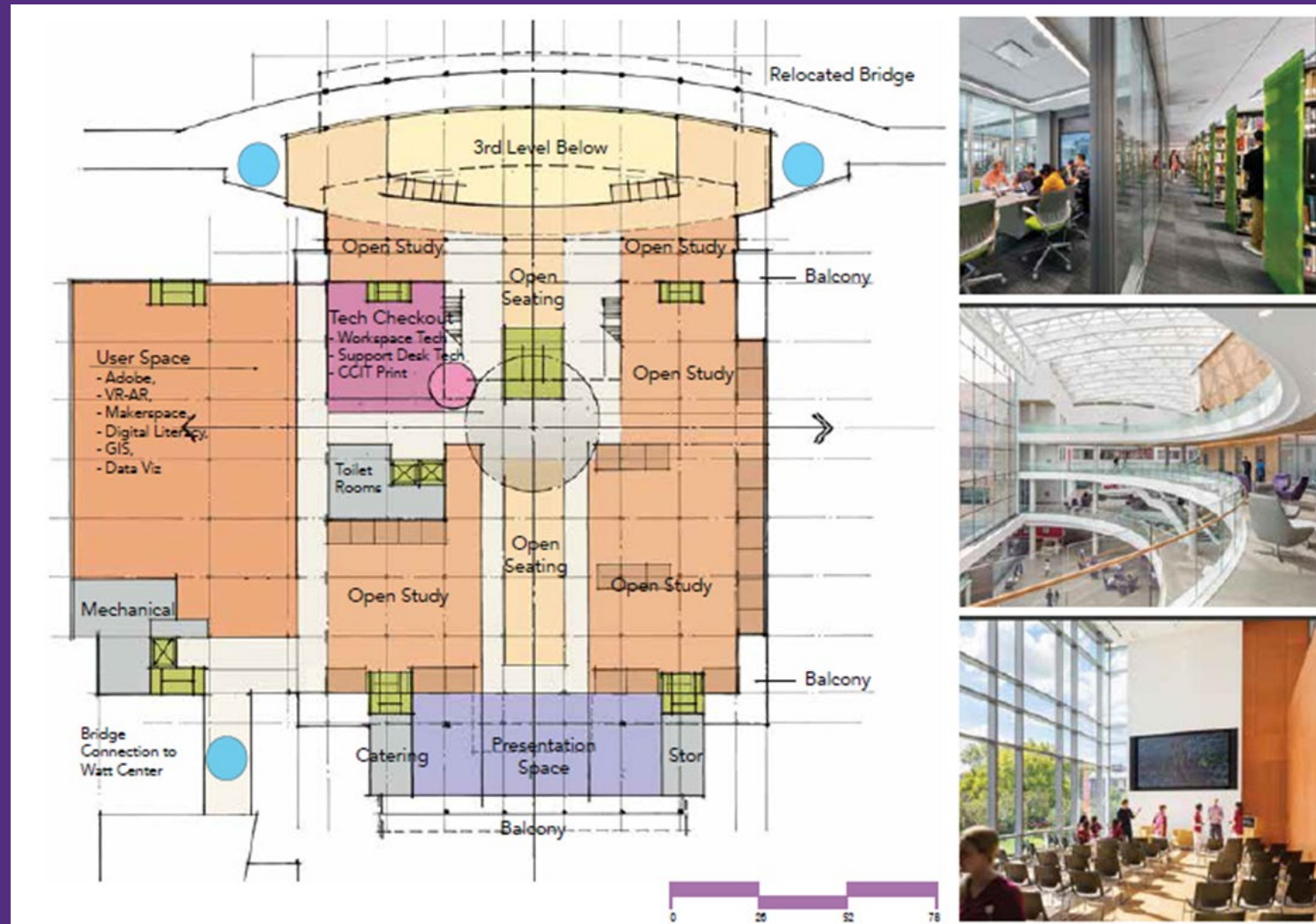




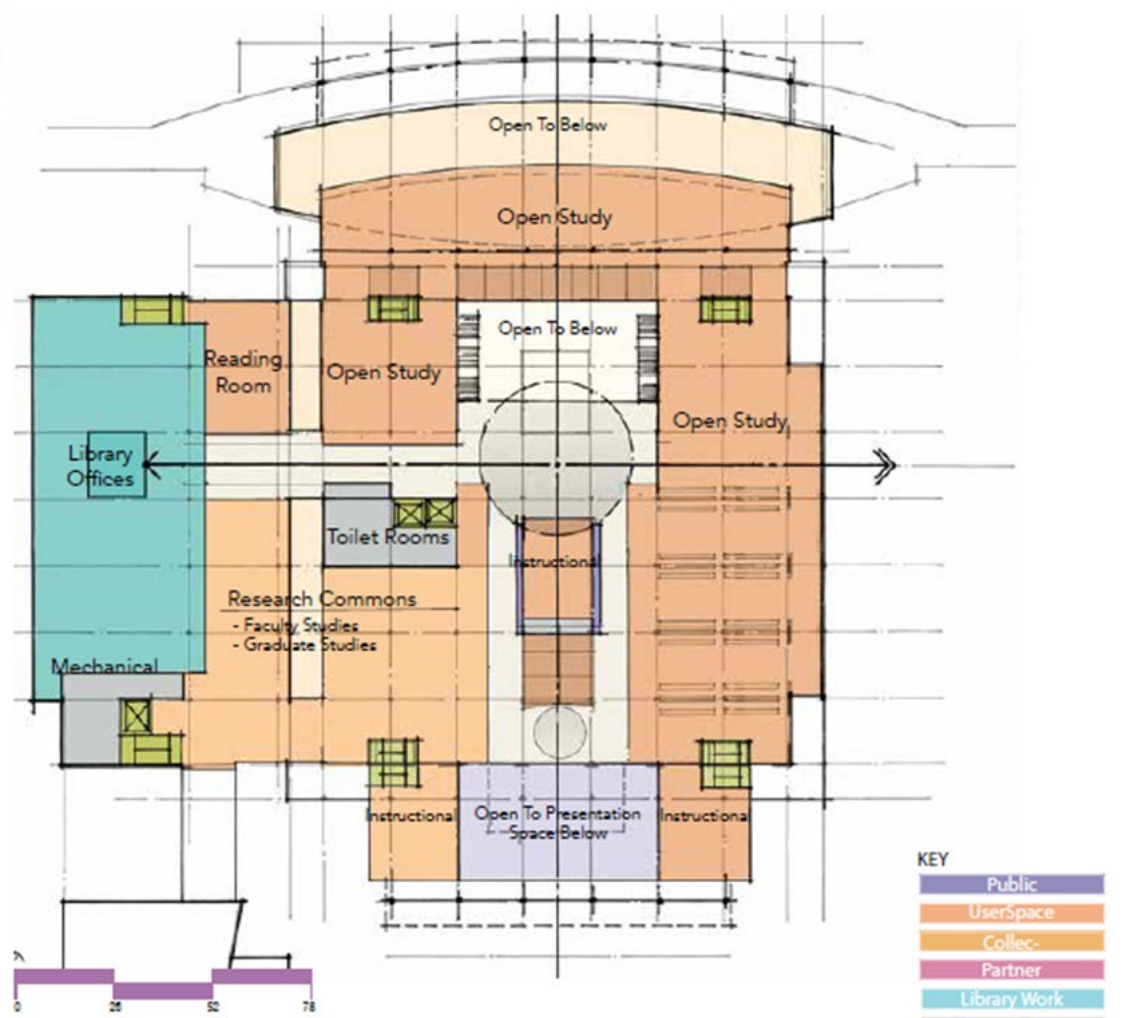
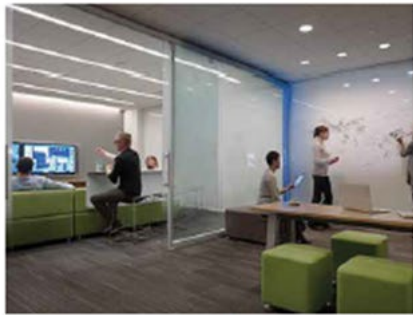
# Third Floor



# Fourth Floor

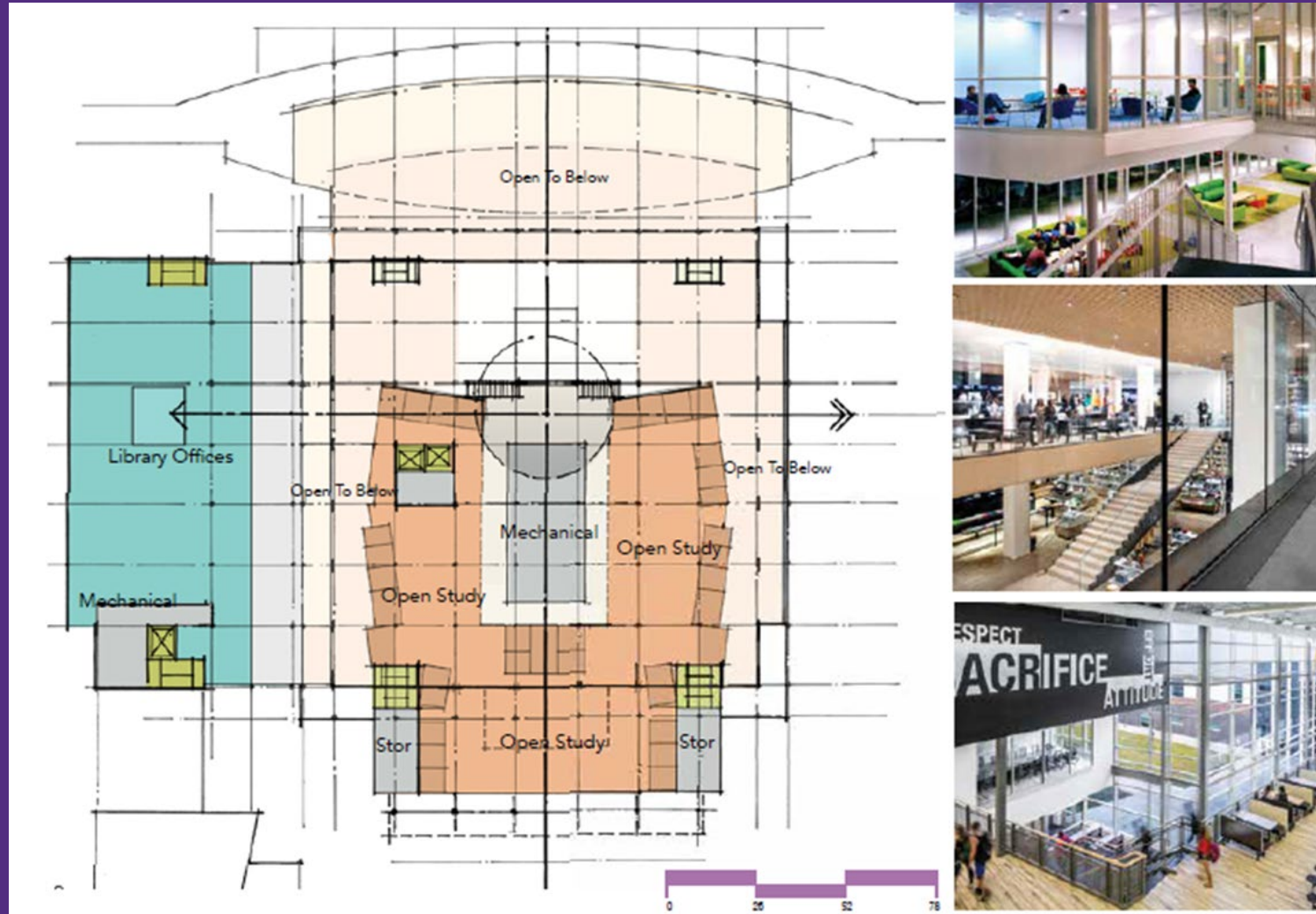


# Fifth Floor

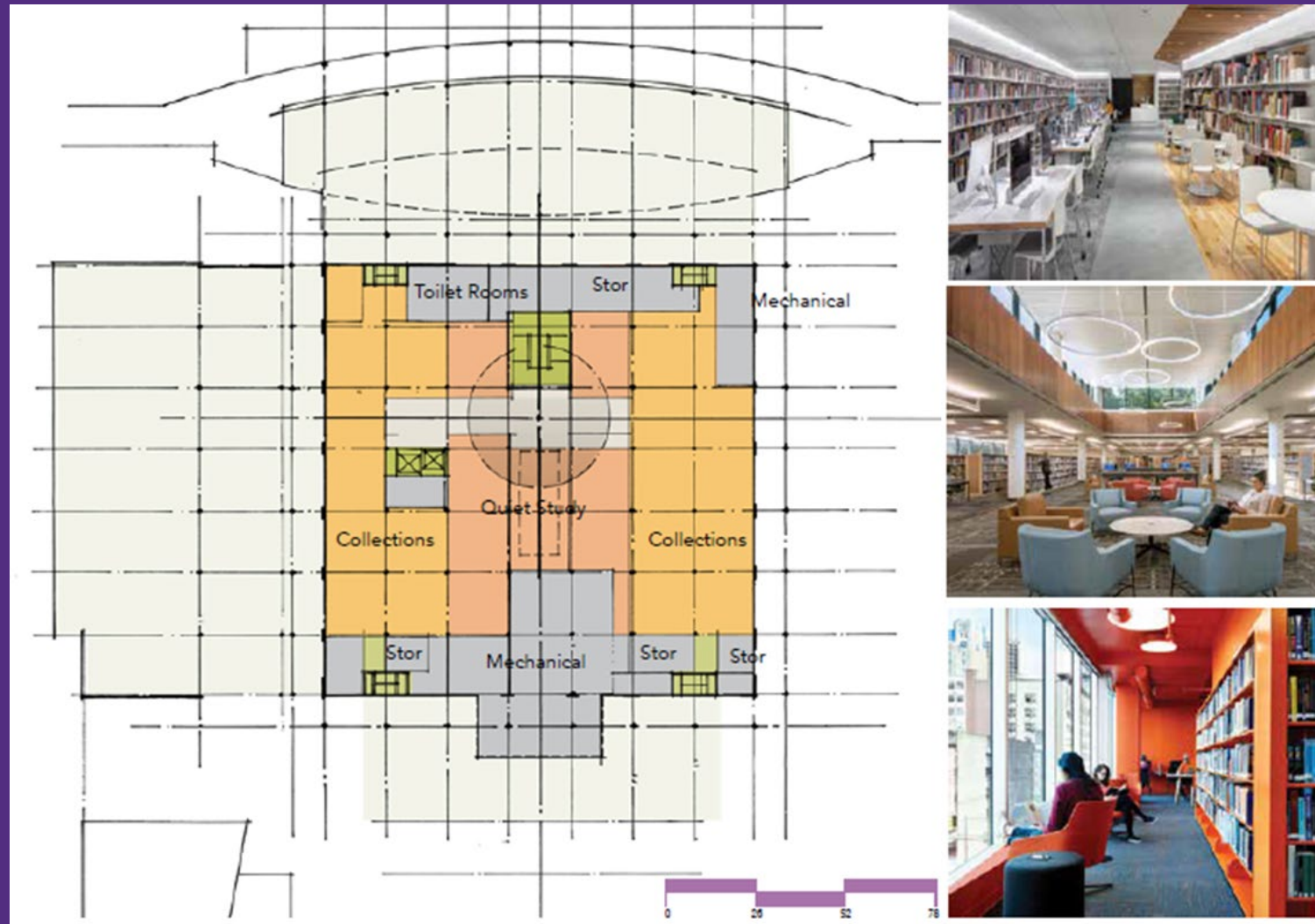




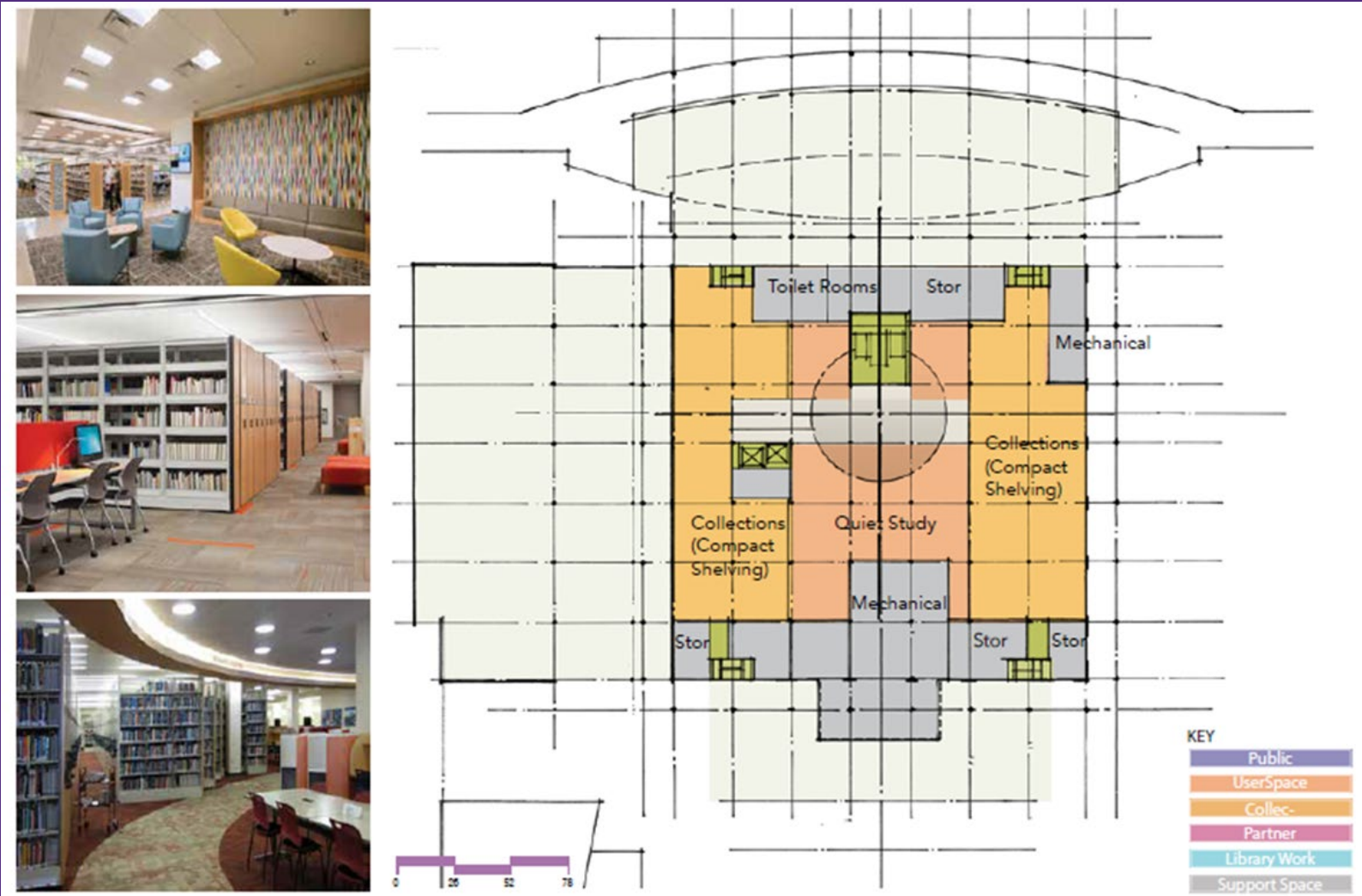
# Sixth Floor



# Second Floor



# First Floor





# New Front



# New Back







# CLEMS<sup>®</sup>



## LIBRARIES

*Discover. Collaborate. Create.*